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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/748,891 | GALKIN, BENJAMIN M. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Jurie Yun | 2882 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/13/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-29.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 June 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed 6/13/05 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Karen Millane Whitney on 8/9/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 11, line 5, after "information", insert --about said compressible material--

In claim 14, line 11, after "indicia", insert --wherein said indicia imparts information about said compressible material--

In claim 18, line 14, after "indicia", insert -- wherein said indicia imparts information about said compressible material--

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-29 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Prior art fails to disclose a comfort device for use with a mammography unit comprising an x-ray transparent compressible material, wherein a portion of a partially radiopaque identifier comprises indicia which impart information about said material or about said comfort device onto a mammogram, as claimed in claims 1, 11, and 22.

Art Unit: 2882

Prior art fails to disclose a method for reducing patient discomfort during a mammogram and for imparting information onto a mammogram about a comfort device, wherein said comfort device comprises an x-ray transparent compressible material and a partially radiopaque identifier comprising indicia, and recording said indicia, wherein said indicia imparts information about said compressible material onto said mammogram, as claimed in claim 14.

Prior art fails to disclose a method for reducing patient discomfort during a mammogram and for imparting information onto a mammogram about a comfort device, wherein said comfort device comprises an x-ray transparent compressible material, an identifying cover, and a partially radiopaque identifier, wherein said cover comprises x-ray transparent material wherein said partially radiopaque identifier is permanently affixed to said identifying cover and comprises indicia, and recording said indicia, wherein said indicia imparts information about said compressible material onto said mammogram, as claimed in claim 18.

Prior art fails to disclose a method for recording the use of a comfort device in conjunction with a mammography unit comprising producing a radiographic image of said indicia wherein said indicia comprises information about at least one physical property of said material, or about the manufacturer or product name or both of said material, as claimed in claims 23 and 26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 2882


accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

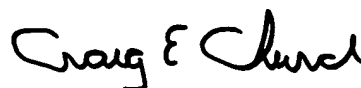
Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jurie Yun whose telephone number is 571 272-2497. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on 571 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 Jurie Yun
August 9, 2005



Craig E. Church
Primary Examiner